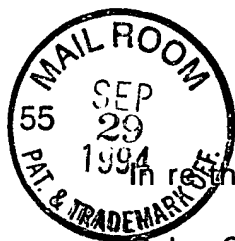


AN

PATENT

I, O, S  
3-22-95



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Celso S. J. Bagaoisan *et al.*

For: INTRAVASCULAR CATHETER WITH A  
REPLACEABLE SHAFT SECTION

Serial No. 08/250,785

Filed: May 27, 1994

Atty. Docket NO. 18000.8481.0

) Examiner: Not yet assigned

) Group Art Unit: Not yet assigned

RECEIVED

OCT 05 1994

APPLICATION DIVISION

September 26, 1994

CROSBY, HEAFEY, ROACH & MAY

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING PURSUANT TO 37 CFR 1.8

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited in the United States mail as first class mail with postage prepaid, and is addressed to: The Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. on September 26, 1994 in Oakland, California.

*Bonnie Cooperstein*  
Bonnie Cooperstein

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

The Commissioner  
United States Patent  
and Trademark Office  
Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

The applicants wish to bring to the attention of the Examiner

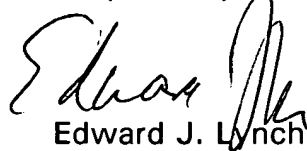
U.S. Patent No. 3,834,394 (Hunter *et al.*) which is listed on the attached

PTO-1449. A copy of the listed reference is enclosed for the Examiner's consideration.

Hunter *et al.* describes an occlusion catheter which has a balloon designed to be expanded to occlude a venous passageway and to be disengaged from the catheter shaft when it is inflated, so as to remain in the blood vessel in the inflated state to prevent the passage of thrombus. Note that there is no distal shaft section having an inner lumen which is disengageable from the proximal shaft section having an inner lumen in fluid communication with the inner lumen of the distal shaft section. There is no suggestion of the catheter structure of the present invention or the method of using the catheter.

Applicants believe that the pending claims of the present application define patentable subject matter and respectfully request favorable consideration and an early allowance thereof.

Respectfully submitted,



Edward J. Lynch  
Registration No. 24,422  
Attorney for Applicant

Telephone: (510) 466-6805  
Facsimile: (510) 273-8866

1999 Harrison Street  
Oakland, CA 94612

EJL/bc